Alex Sobel

for Leeds Central and Headingley

My name is Alex Sobel, and I am standing to be the MP for the new Constituency of Leeds Central and Headingley in the upcoming General Election, having served as MP for Leeds North West for the last seven years.

This is my home, I was born at the Leeds Maternity Hospital on Hyde Terrace, I went to university here, I've lived around the area for the last 30 years.

Before I became an MP, I spent 20 years as a community worker in the city. I managed Social Enterprise Yorkshire, and also served as a Labour and Co-operative councillor for Moortown and Meanwood.

In this General Election, with this new constituency, I now hope to become the Labour and Co-operative MP for Leeds Central and Headingley. It may be a new constituency, but I will continue to represent you in the name of social justice, and with a deep regard for the natural world.

Since 2017, I have fought in Parliament for the issues that are most important to my community, tackling climate change and loss of nature, better Special educational needs and disability provision in schools, a fairer deal in higher education, the NHS and human rights.

When elected I will continue to hold regular constituency surgeries.

My values also go beyond the constituency, for example I have organised aid convoys to Ukraine, helping to deliver vital aid and resources and supporting displaced Ukrainian people within the UK.

I am committed to a permanent ceasefire in Gaza, and a two-state solution for Palestinians and Israelis. Recently, I travelled to the West Bank where I met with grassroots organisations, and the Deputy Prime Minister of Palestine. I also helped found the UK branch of Standing Together, a joint Palestinian-Israeli movement advocating for peace and delivering aid to Gaza.

I am now setting up the Leeds International Aid Foundation to give financial aid to those communities we are linked with that are in need.

I have served as Shadow Minister for Tourism and Heritage and Shadow Minister for Nature. This year I was elected as a member of the Culture, Media and Sport Select Committee working on national issues such as saving grassroots music venues and eradicating racism in sport, issues I had worked on for years as an MP.

When I am elected, I will work tirelessly to represent every single resident in this new Leeds Central and Headingley constituency, to ensure that our amazing city is a safe, prosperous, and vibrant place to live and that we can all live in a more secure world.

When elected I will fight for:

A better deal for renters and more social housing:
more social homes, make renting affordable by limiting deposits and regulating rents.

An NHS that serves the people:
Labour will deliver an extra 2 million operations, scans, and appointments and a Dentistry Rescue Plan to provide extra appointments in the next year.

Decent transport for the whole of Leeds:
Working with Mayor Tracy Brabin to deliver public control of buses to ensure your bus arrives on time - and remove the bus companies who fail! I also support the tram scheme for Leeds and nationally Labour will bring trains into public ownership.

Protection for our city's amazing grassroots culture:
We have thousands of artists, musicians and writers. My plan for grassroots cultural venues and artists includes listing venues as assets of community value, bringing planning protection for venues and getting an arena levy to support grassroots venues and artists.

A green transition that creates local jobs:
I established the Net Zero group in Parliament. I am now working on bringing green projects to Leeds like vertical farming and hydrogen production which can create thousands of jobs and save tonnes of carbon.

Contact:

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Labour and co-operative

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Polls open Thurs 4th July, 7am-10pm

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